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CONFIDENTIAL.]

REPORT ON NATIVE PAPERS

FOR THE

Week ending the 9th May 1885.

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LIST OF NEWSPAPERS.

No.	Names of newspapers.	Place of publication.	Reported number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.
ASSAMESE.				
<i>Monthly.</i>				
1	"Assam Vilásini"	Sibsagar ... ..	.....	
2	"Assam News"	Ditto	450	
BENGALI.				
<i>Fortnightly.</i>				
3	"Sansodhini"	Chittagong	700	
4	"Purva Darpan"	Ditto ... ..	.....	
<i>Weekly.</i>				
5	"Ananda Bazar Patriká"	Calcutta	700	4th May 1885.
6	"Arya Darpan"	Ditto	102	1st ditto.
7	"Bangabási"	Ditto	12,000	2nd ditto.
8	"Bhāratbási"	Ditto ... ..	.....	2nd ditto.
9	"Bhārat Mihir"	Mymensingh	625	
10	"Bardwān Sanjivani"	Burdwan	296	28th April 1885.
11	"Chāruvartā"	Sherepore, Mymensingh	529	27th ditto.
12	"Dacca Prakāsh"	Dacca	425	3rd ditto.
13	"Education Gazette"	Hooghly	800	1st May 1885.
14	"Grāmvartā Prakāshikā"	Comercolly	500	2nd ditto.
15	"Hindu Ranjikā"	Beauleah, Rajshahye	200	
16	"Mussulman Handhu"	Bhowanipore, Calcutta ... ..	.....	24th April and 1st May 1885.
17	"Murshidābād Patriká"	Berhampore	437	
18	"Murshidābād Pratinidhi"	Ditto ... ..	.....	
19	"Navavibhākar"	Calcutta	850	4th May 1885.
20	"Paridarshak"	Sylhet	440	
21	"Patākā"	Calcutta ... ..	.....	1st ditto.
22	"Prajā Bandhu"	Chandernagore	900	1st ditto.
23	"Pratikār"	Berhampore	600	1st ditto.
24	"Rungpore Dik Prakāsh"	Kakiniā, Rungpore	220	30th April 1885.
25	"Sādharaṇī"	Calcutta	500	3rd May "
26	"Sahachar"	Ditto	500	29th April "
27	"Samaya"	Ditto	1,500	4th May "
28	"Sanjivani"	Ditto	4,000	2nd ditto.
29	"Sāraswat Patra"	Dacca	345	
30	"Som Prakāsh"	Changripottā, 24-Perghs.	1,000	4th ditto.
31	"Sulabha Samāchār"	Calcutta	3,000	25th April and 2nd May 1885.
32	"Surabhi"	Ditto	700	5th May 1885.
<i>Daily.</i>				
33	"Dainik"	Calcutta ... ..	.....	4th to 8th May 1885.
34	"Samvād Prabhākar"	Ditto	225	2nd to 7th ditto.
35	"Samvād Pūrnachandrodaya"	Ditto	300	2nd to 9th ditto.
36	"Samachār Chandrikā"	Ditto	625	1st to 7th ditto.
37	"Banga Vidyā Prakāshikā"	Ditto	520	4th and 6th to 8th ditto.
38	"Prabhāti"	Ditto	1,000	4th to 6th and 8th ditto.
HINDI.				
<i>Monthly.</i>				
39	"Kshatriya Patriká"	Patna	400	
<i>Fortnightly.</i>				
40	"Chumparun Hitakari"	Bettia ... ..	.....	
<i>Weekly.</i>				
41	"Behar Bandhu"	Bankipore ... ..	.....	
42	"Bhārat Mitra"	Calcutta	1,500	30th April 1885.
43	"Sār Sudhānidhi"	Ditto	500	20th ditto.
44	"Uchit Baktā"	Ditto	300	25th ditto.
45	"Hindi Samāchār"	Bhagulpore	700	
PERSIAN.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
46	"Jām-Jahān-nam"	Calcutta	250	24th ditto.
URDU.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
47	"Gauhar"	Calcutta	100	
48	"Sharaf-ul-Akhbar"	Behar	250	
<i>Bi-weekly.</i>				
49	"Akhbar-i-darusaltanat"	Calcutta	340	6th May 1885.
<i>Daily.</i>				
50	"Urdu Guide"	Calcutta	365	28th to 30th April, and 1st to 5th and 7th and 8th May 1885.
URIYA.				
<i>Monthly.</i>				
51	"Taraka"	Calcutta ... ..	.....	
52	"Shikshābandhu"	Ditto ... ..	.....	
53	"Prasāng"	Ditto ... ..	.....	
<i>Weekly.</i>				
54	"Utkal Dipikā"	Cuttack	250	18th April 1885.
55	"Utkal Darpan"	Balasore	200	21st ditto.
56	"Masore Samvad Vāhika"	Ditto	116	16th ditto.
57	"Sebaka"	Cuttack	200	22nd ditto.

POLITICAL.

The Sár Sudhánidhi, of the 20th April, says that England is the greatest naval power in the world. But she is not so strong on land. The number of her troops should be increased. The writer recommends

SAR SUDHANIDHI,
April 20th, 1885.

Increase of the military strength of England and the employment of Hindu troops.

that the British Government should increase its military strength by employing ten lakhs more of Hindu troops, and by enrolling natives as volunteers. The writer suggests that Hindu troops should be employed on these grounds:—that Hindus are most numerous in India, and consequently a large number of troops can be easily raised from among them; that if Mussulman troops are employed they may join their co-religionists in Central Asia; that the Hindus have no other home than India, and are consequently most loyal to the English; that they are very patient and capable of suffering great hardships; that they cost less than troops that might be raised from among any other race. If the English do this, their power on land will be equal to their power on sea.

2. *The Mussulman Bandhu*, of the 24th April, says that the English are always extremely selfish. They came to India as merchants, and gradually possessed

MUSSULMAN BANDHU,
April 24th, 1885.

Cashmere.

themselves of the entire country, with the exception of Nepal, Bhutan and Cashmere. They are always anxious to possess these countries, and have succeeded to a certain extent in Bhutan. The independence of Nepal and Cashmere has become an eyre to British officers. They are busy in finding means for going to Cashmere. The *Englishman* newspaper has received a telegram from Lahore that the Maharajah of Cashmere holds secret correspondence with Russia. The writer thinks that the rumour is entirely unfounded, and he asks Englishmen not to take hasty steps by putting faith in such rumours as these.

3. The same paper says that though Russia is not so wealthy as England, yet she can easily send a large army to Central Asia. She has conciliated the Mahomedan rulers of Central Asia, and has improved the position of her own Mahomedan subjects to a great extent. The English do not understand that it would be difficult to help the Afghans when their country will have been depopulated by the inroads of Russia. The forces of England and Afghanistan should be united when both countries are strong. The English cannot do without the Afghans, and they cannot also depend upon them. Lord Dufferin should try to make a peaceful settlement of the question. The Boundary Commission will not be able to effect anything.

MUSSULMAN BANDHU.

Russia.

4. *The Uchit Vaktá*, of the 25th April, says that Russia is making proposals of peace only for gaining time to be completely ready for war. She has extended her dominion while England was busy with the Afghan war under Lord Lytton, and with the Soudan war recently. Had she not coveted India, she would not have spent so much money upon preparations for war. The English should not believe Russia, but fight with her.

UCHIT VAKTA,
April 25th, 1885.

England and Russia.

5. *The Sulabh Samáchar*, of the 25th April, learns, from a friend who has returned from Russia, that there is as much difference between Russia and England as between darkness and light. The Czar would be happy if he could enjoy as much liberty and security as is enjoyed by a common English subject in India. The Czar is in constant dread of the Nihilists. In Russia friends cannot freely talk on political or on religious subjects. Compared with the Empire of Russia, that of England is like the Empire of Rama. The defects of the British Empire are like the spots in the moon. It is a

SULABH SAMACHAR,
April 25th, 1885.

Russia.

special Providence which has ordained that India should come under the rule of England. The writer thinks that no other power in the world will be able to govern India so well as the English, though they have many defects, and though they have officers who are of a satanic disposition.

CHARU VARTA,
April 27th, 1885.

6. The *Cháruvartá*, of the 27th April, says that the English could have with a fourth of the expenditure incurred in propitiating the Afghans raised a fort in the hearts of the people of India more durable than Fort William.

SAHACHAR,
April 29th, 1885.

7. The *Sahachar*, of the 29th April, says that though the probability of war has increased rather than diminished, it has not yet given up hopes of peace. Russia can never reject the proposal of the English Government for the settlement of the differences by arbitration, inasmuch as in that event she will have to be answerable to the whole world for the disturbance of the peace.

SAHACHAR.

8. The same paper is very glad that England has desisted from the Soudan war. The English should now concentrate all their forces in order to be ready for a war with Russia.

URDU GUIDE,
April 29th, 1885.

9. The *Urdu Guide*, of the 29th April, says that Russia would not have spent so much money upon the conquest of Central Asia, if she had had no intention of occupying India. If she now ceases to advance, and makes a peace with the English, she will do so only for a short time. Under these circumstances British troops should be stationed in Herat to prevent the advance of Russia.

BHARAT MITRA,
April 30th, 1885.

10. The *Bhárat Mitra*, of the 30th April, says that the Amir has not consented to the stationing of British troops in Afghanistan, on the ground that the Afghans will become excited if that is done. The editor asks what is the value of a friendship with the Amir if British troops are not allowed to be established in Afghanistan? He recommends that Lord Dufferin should permanently station a strong force on the North-Western frontier.

URDU GU DE,
May 1st, 1885.

11. The *Urdu Guide*, of the 1st May, in an article which is continued in the next issue, says that General Gordon himself said that the Soudanese were fighting in a just cause. When the deceased General himself said this, the English will shew true magnanimity, if instead of crushing the Mahdi to avenge the death of Gordon, they assist the Soudanese in gaining their freedom. The writer complains that while the English are accepting the assistance of the King of Abyssinia, it is not accepting that of the Sultan of Turkey who is the head of the Mussulman world, and who is obeyed by all Mussulmans. The English should accept the assistance of the Sultan.

PATAKA,
May 1st, 1885.

12. The *Patáká*, of the 1st May, says that had not the English been provided with better arms they would have been as signally defeated by the Arabs (of the Soudan) in the battle of the 22nd March as the Roman soldiers were in 635. These Arabs have no fear of death. Repeated defeats do not at all diminish their courage. The writer is glad that Government has resolved to desist from a needless war with these indomitable Arabs of the Soudan.

BANGABASI,
May 2nd 1885.

13. The *Bangabási*, of the 2nd May, considers that even if the Russians be ambitious of establishing an Empire in India, they have very little chance of succeeding in their attempt. For leaving aside the difficulty of passing through the Afghan territories, and the question of the loyalty of the Princes

and the people of India, is not the western frontier of India defended by natural fortifications? A small number of men in the passes of the Soleeman Range can keep away a whole host of the enemy. The writer is sure that Russia does not covet the possession of India. Those that are afraid of a Russian invasion are afraid of a spectre raised by their own imagination.

14. The *Bhārat Bāsi*, of the 2nd May, says that the principal cause of the impending war with Russia is the England's distrust of the people of India. If a

The fortune of India.

handful of uneducated Soudanese without arms can keep an English army at bay, two hundred millions of the people of India can easily defeat Russia, nay, even the whole world. If the English trust the natives they can raise an army of 1,000,000 men at a moment's notice. When the British Lion is so powerful, would it be consistent with its dignity to go to war with Russia at a distance of 880 miles for a piece of desert land? The people of Peshawur live in constant dread of the Afghans. Would it not be better therefore if instead of the rude Afghans the Russians became neighbours to the Indian Empire? Germany, Austria, and Turkey have lived as neighbours to Russia for centuries. What misfortune has befallen them for their proximity to Russia? India will be in great distress if a war with Russia actually breaks out, for then fresh burdens are sure to be imposed upon the natives.

15. The same paper says that the English invasion of Cabul in 1839

The causes of the extension of the Russian Empire.

induced Czar Nicholas to send an army to Khiva, lest the English should march against Turkestan after conquering Cabul: so the attention of the Czar was first drawn towards India by the action of the Government of India. The principal causes of the extension of the Russian Empire are the poverty of the Russian people, and the increase of their number. The Russian Government has also to adopt various measures to keep the Nihilists in check, and it tries its best to keep the loyally disposed from coming into contact with the Nihilists; hence arises the necessity of colonization.

16. The *Dacca Prakāsh*, of the 3rd May, says that it is a matter of great regret that the English Government cannot distinguish its friends from its enemies.

The war.

The writer does not find much good in conciliating a monarch who distinctly says that he has no complete control over his subjects. The Amir says that the Afghan pounces like a tiger upon any white man he meets with, and still the Afghan is being plentifully supplied with arms and ammunition. Mere arms and ammunition do not ensure victory. Can the Amir think of resisting the Cossacks without the help of English warriors? If the English after paying so much are not allowed to pass through Afghanistan, what was the good of flattering the Amir? The writer does not understand why, when so much is done for the Amir, the Government hesitates to enrol the loyal natives as volunteers. There are Englishmen who never hesitate to characterise Russians as oppressors. But Russians are training the recently-conquered Turkomans in the use of arms, while the English are unwilling to place arms in the hands of subjects over whom they have ruled for a century.

17. The *Sādhārāni*, of the 3rd May, says that Russia intends to facilitate her advance towards India by entangling England into difficulties on all sides.

England and Russia.

But there is no probability of this hope of Russia being easily fulfilled. The English Government has acceded to the desires of Russia on every point. This weakness on the part of England has made Russia haughty. This conduct of Russia makes Indians almost desire for war, though they know that they will be ruined if war takes place. However large may be the army of Russia, if the English Government avails itself of the services of the troops of the Native Princes, Russia is sure to be ultimately defeated;

BHARAT BASI,
May 2nd, 1885.

BHARAT BASI.

DACCA PRAKASH,
May 3rd, 1885.

SADHARANI,
May 3rd, 1885.

consequently there is no fear of the subversion of the British Government. The only fear is of the vast expenses, but the fact that India will not have probably to bear the whole expenses of war is reassuring.

SADHARANI,
May 3rd, 1885.

18. The same paper says that when Indians reflect upon the insult offered to the English Government, they desire for a war with Russia. But when they reflect upon the ruin which the war will bring upon them, they desire that war should not break out. Now that there are mere rumours of war, the prices of grains have risen very high. If the war breaks out, the prices of the grains will rise still higher. There can be no doubt that India is becoming poorer and poorer day by day. The people are unable to pay the existing taxes. But if a new tax is imposed upon the people on account of war, they will be ruined. If the English are defeated in one or two battles, anarchy will prevail for some time in India. If war breaks out the construction of all beneficial public works also will be stopped. In the event of a war the places for free distribution of food also will be closed, which will result in the death of many helpless men and women.

SOM PRAKASH,
May 4th, 1885.

19. The *Som Prakāsh*, of the 4th May, says that Russians have abolished the horrid system of slavery which was very prevalent in Turkomenia. Turkomenia has derived this great benefit from the establishment of Russian dominion over it. Russia has entitled itself to the support of the whole world by this action. Still Sir Henry Rawlinson is recommending that Russia should be driven out of Turkomenia. The writer says that England should by all means see that Russia does not injure her. But she will lose the sympathy of every nation if she needlessly quarrels with Russia in Central Asia.

ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
May 4th, 1885.

20. We extract the following observations from an article in the *Ananda Bazar Patrikā*, of the 4th May, headed "India and the power of England":—
India and the power of England.
Why does England with all her vast wealth, power and resources, find herself in her present perilous situation? The way in which she has set about the task of fixing the Afghan boundaries in conjunction with Russia has disgusted Englishmen. Germany acted in a very highhanded manner in Western Africa. Why was this highhandedness put up with and Germany allowed to retain as much tract of country as she pleased? The demand of indemnity made by the French Government upon Egypt is extremely unjust. Why do Englishmen then trouble themselves with that matter? The chief cause of England's present embarrassments is the existing system of English administration. England must either extend that system to all her territorial possessions, or choose the alternative of finding herself weaker and involved in growing complications. If the English system of administration had prevailed in India, the rulers would now have been spared all anxiety on account of the defence of the British Indian Empire. The people of India would have themselves undertaken the task. In that case the British rulers would not have had to depend so much on the aid of the Amir, the hollow friendship now established between Government and the Amir would not have been established, the Russians would not have probably ventured to advance to the Afghan frontier, and the rulers would not have had to feel so much anxiety owing to the complications in Egyptian affairs caused by the French.

If there be a war with Russia, Government will require money and troops. There is probably no power in the world which can close the Suez Canal. But if through the force of circumstances that canal is now closed by anybody, Government will be obliged to depend wholly upon India. It could have safely done so if India had been administered on the system on which England is ruled. India has now become impoverished and

denuded of her heroic population. Englishmen and Anglo-Indians may not like that India should be governed on the English system of administration, fearing that in that case England would cease to derive any benefit from the possession of this empire. God forbid, but if Russia should invade India from the Afghan frontier, and the Suez Canal be closed by the French, what a perilous situation would the British Indian Government and Anglo-Indians alike be placed in !

21. The same paper remarks that though the political constitution of England is admirable, still it is not suited to a country which has other countries subject to it. The present political constitution of England has made the English people exceedingly selfish. They look only to their own interests and not to those of the people of the British Empire as a whole. Though the Russians have gradually arrived at the frontiers of India, and though the rulers have become anxious on account of the defence of the British Indian Empire, still Anglo-Indians do not find themselves able to give up their proud and self-seeking disposition. For the above reason also they are opposing the admission of natives into the volunteer corps. In America and her dependencies, as well as in France, the Republican system of Government prevails. This accounts for the gradual progress which is being made by those States. England's troubles are due to her extensive and overgrown empire. The Russian empire is governed by the Czar, who is an autocrat. He looks upon all his different possessions with an impartial eye. The case is otherwise in England, where the Prime Minister, who is the servant of the people, is obliged to consult the wishes and interests of the more influential sections of the English population. The result of this is that injustice is done to the people of subject countries. The fighting at Panjdeh has shown that the Russians were for a long time past perfectly prepared for war without the fact being known to almost anybody. But the British Premier cannot secretly make any such warlike preparations. This has brought about the present humiliation of England. England has long established her empire in India, and has done much for the material and intellectual improvement of the people. Russia, on the contrary, has within a short time established her sway in Central Asia. The people of India are gentle and peace-loving, while those of Central Asia are turbulent and blood-thirsty. And yet Russia has entrusted one of her Turkoman subjects with the conduct of military operations, while England lacks the courage to permit natives of India to enrol themselves as volunteers. In the negotiations going on between England and Russia, the latter is outwitting the former at every step. In the matter of declaring war or making treaties, the Czar does what he thinks best. The British Premier does not possess so much power. The Czar can conciliate the Turkomans at any cost, but the English Premier cannot say that he is in a position to do so as regards the natives of India. If therefore England had governed the people of subject countries on the system on which she governs Englishmen, the power of the British Empire would have increased, and British subjects would have been made happy and loyal. If England continues to show a selfish spirit, and thinks that she has conquered different countries only for increasing her own wealth and comforts, it will become difficult to preserve the British Empire.

22. The same paper remarks that if India had been governed on the system on which England is governed, natives of India would have entertained a feeling of spontaneous and pure loyalty to the British Government. But the system of administration which obtains in this country is almost at every step characterized by selfishness on the part of the rulers; consequently it is impossible for the people of India to entertain a feeling of

ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
May 4th, 1885.

ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA.

pure loyalty to the British Government. Man naturally loves liberty. Nobody will say that the people of India do not desire to be free. British rule again is at every moment stimulating their love of liberty. It is a fact that it is impossible for natives of India to spontaneously feel loyal to the British Government. Nor is it likely that they will, if they find a suitable opportunity, be deterred by their loyalty to British rule from making any attempt to achieve their freedom. But besides a spontaneous feeling of loyalty there is another sort of loyalty, namely, that which is born of fear and self-interest. The authorities will only be giving proof of their weakness and oppressive character if they do not admit that it is this latter sort of loyalty which the natives feel for the British Government. If on the subversion of British rule, there had been a probability of natives gaining their freedom, the authorities might have been justified in their distrust of the people of India and in their refusal to allow them the use of arms; but their present condition is such that if British rule should come to an end in this country, Russia will conquer India. Whatever the defects of British rule, the natives have been able during their two centuries acquaintance with it to judge of its character, while of Russia they know next to nothing. The Czar is indeed said to rule his conquered territories with some measure of leniency, but the natives do not know the Russians, and are not sure whether the Czar will govern India, if it comes to be conquered by him, with the same generosity. There is again the apprehension that Russians will very naturally, if they can conquer India, be disposed to follow here a policy which may recoup them for the enormous loss of blood and treasure they have incurred in the conquest of Central Asia. It is therefore clear that the people of India, though they may not entertain a spontaneous feeling of loyalty for the British Government, have yet reason to be animated by the loyalty that is born of self-interest. As long as they cannot achieve their independence, they will not, on considerations of self-interest, attempt the subversion of British rule. Under these circumstances, the authorities can safely grant them the privilege of using arms. Many believe that Government withholds from them this privilege for the sake of Anglo-Indians, who fear that the bestowal of it will interfere with that prestige which Anglo-Indians enjoy in this country with the help of inequitable legislation and physical valour. This feeling of Anglo-Indians may be natural enough, but they should consider that the native of India is asking for the privilege of using arms for the defence of the British Indian Empire, with whose existence their happiness and prosperity are indissolubly connected. But the editor does not believe that it is solely for the sake of Anglo-Indians that Government refuses to allow natives to become volunteers. It is the Government's distrust of the loyalty of the natives which accounts for its action in the present case. That there should be such distrust might be expected; but since it is due to the defective system of Indian administration, how can the people remove it from the minds of the rulers? Government may not believe in their loyalty, but it should consider that they are not treacherous. They possessed considerable strength at the time of the Sepoy Mutiny, and might have easily subverted British rule if they had chosen to do so, but they then desired the welfare of the British Government, because otherwise they would be considered guilty of faithlessness. It does not now behove Government to harbour in its mind the suspicion that they will prove treacherous.

ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
May 4th, 1885.

23. Referring to the termination of the dispute between England and France in the matter of the *Bosphore Egyptien* newspaper, the same paper remarks that many fear that the manner in which the difference has been made up will serve to increase the haughtiness of France, and to convince her of the

weakness of England. Indeed the French cannot be blamed if they think so. England's apology after the bluster of the English and Anglo-Indian press is well calculated to produce this impression.

24. The same paper says that no one can deny that on a comparison of the systems of government in vogue in Great Britain and in Russia, the British system will be found to be the better one. But the Russian Government has one merit, and this makes it, in spite of all its defects, so powerful. Russia fully understands the art, how to turn the conquered countries to its best advantage; but the English do not understand it. The consequence of it is that the dependencies of Russia are a source of strength to it, while England is always anxious for her dependencies. When Russia conquers a country she gives its inhabitants considerable freedom in religious, social and political matters; she does not interfere to the best of her power with their manners, customs and government. The high appointments in the country remain open to them, and so they do not feel the hardship and the degradation of a dependent State. By adopting this policy with regard to conquered countries, the Russians have not only won the hearts of the Turkomans, but are using them for the attainment of their own object. Russia has a large number of Mahomedans in her army, and with these she is ready to fight with the Afghans. How different is the policy of England towards her dependencies. Pride of race and superiority of intelligence are at the root of this policy. She will at every step remind her subjects of their subjection to a foreign Government. The country is to be governed and brought under control by means of foreign laws. The English will have the monopoly of high appointments under the State. They will not allow natives to enter the army. The consequence of all this is that the natives cannot mix with them. A feeling is produced that one is the conquering and the other is the conquered race. As long as England does not learn to treat the conquered countries as well as the Russians, she will not be able to become strong on the ground of her possessing dependencies.

ANANDA BAZAR,
PATRIKA,
May 4th, 1885.

25. The *Navavibhakar*, of the 4th May, says that Providence has probably created India and Afghanistan for each other's ruin. Had it not been so, vast sums of Indian money would not have been spent upon Afghan wars and upon the entertainment and the subsidising of the Amir. Had it not been so, the Russian Bear and the English Lion would not have so intently watched Afghanistan. Afghanistan is being watched in this manner only on account of India. Providence created Afghanistan for saving India from the hands of foreigners. But the foolish rulers of India have made Afghanistan a source of weakness to India. Wicked Englishmen have destroyed the power of the Amir and weakened Afghanistan, and have lost the confidence and reverence of the Afghans. Had the integrity of Afghanistan been maintained, Russia would not have ventured to advance towards India. The present state of Afghanistan is not hopeful. It is not advisable to engage in a war with Russia in Central Asia, before making complete arrangements for the prevention of all possible dangers in Afghanistan. The English should now somehow make a peace with Russia, and should for some years to come try to make the Afghans friendly.

NAVAVIBHAKAR,
May 4th, 1885.

26. The same paper says that the Shah of Persia is not so foolish that he will incur the displeasure of Russia for the sake of England. He fears Russia more than he fears England, consequently all attempts on the part of the English to induce him to help them will prove fruitless. Under these circumstances the English Government should not ruin Persia, and increase the troubles of India by dragging the former into a quarrel with Russia.

NAVAVIBHAKAR.

NAVAVIBHAKAR
May 4th, 1885.

27. The same paper says that the English can shew no just reason for fighting against Russia. It has not yet been settled whether Panjdeh is a part of Afghanistan or of the Russian dominion. The Amir has not yet said anything about the subject. But the English are saying that Panjdeh belongs to Afghanistan, and that Russia has forcibly occupied it. Even if Panjdeh belongs to Afghanistan, the English have no right to interfere in the matter. The English should also ascertain which party is responsible for the battle in Panjdeh. When again the attack on the Afghans in Panjdeh was not made under instructions from the Russian Government, the English cannot fight with Russia for that. The English can fight with Russia only for two reasons, namely, to save their prestige, and for the fear of a Russian invasion of India. But neither of these can justify a war with Russia. The sending of the Boundary Commission was a mistake. Had not the Commission been sent so many difficulties would not have arisen. Under these circumstances the English should try to make peace with Russia.

NAVAVIBHAKAR.

28. The same paper says that the occupation of India has increased the wealth and glory of England. Owing to the establishment of British dominion in India many Englishmen are being supported by India, and the country has become a great market for English goods. Owing to India the Queen of England has become an Empress. England gains much and loses nothing by the occupation of India. But if she needlessly incurs expenses for the defence of India, India cannot in justice be required to defray those expenses, yet England transported Indian troops to Egypt to fight with Arabi, and to Malta to overawe Russia. England is also making preparations for an unnecessary war with Russia. If the war breaks out and lasts for some time, India will be ruined. India has to bear all these burdens only because she is under British rule. England fears that Russia may occupy India just in the same way as she has occupied it. So a war may break out with Russia. If the war breaks out, India will be exhausted owing to loss of blood and treasure. Thus the burden upon India has increased since the establishment of British rule in India. But the happiness of India has not increased in the proportion in which her burden has increased. India has to share England's troubles, but she does not share England's happiness. Indians are ready to sacrifice everything for the sake of England. Can they not expect some recompense for this? The writer desires that India should be made a real part of England, and that no difference should be made between the two countries. The present constitution of the Indian Government will have to be altered. It is advisable to do that soon which will have to be done some day or other. Either India should be made more independent, or she should be more closely united with England. In order to effect this either a separate Parliament for India will have to be formed, or arrangements should be made for the return of Indian members to the English Parliament. The present state of things cannot long continue.

SURABHI,
May 6th, 1885.

29. The *Surabhi*, of the 5th May, is glad that the Maharajah of Cooch Behar has offered to place the services of all his troops at the disposal of the English Government, and has asked for permission to act as a General under the British Government.

SURABHI.

30. The same paper learns from a reliable source that the letters coming from Kashmir are being opened in the Lahore Post-office. The writer would like to know according to what principle of morality Government is doing so. Is that which is theft when committed

Opening of letters from Kashmir by the post-office.

by private persons, no offence when committed by Government? The English will be hated by natives so long as they are guilty of such acts.

31. The same paper says that the approach of Russia has made the English Government stronger. The educated native community all over India are ready to sacrifice their lives for the sake of the English Government and the defence of their country. Will not Government trust these people with arms? It does not appear that Government is willing to enrol natives as volunteers. If Government does not do so everybody will understand that it does not trust natives. Everybody has the right of self-defence. It is monstrous that the English Government has reduced natives to a most wretched plight by keeping them unarmed owing to a mean and unreasonable distrust. Owing to selfish considerations, Government does not consider how sad will be the fate of Indians owing to this in future. Indians can never be attached to the English Government if it does not allow them to become fit for self-defence. It should be remembered that an attempt to govern a people without securing their attachment is a vain one.

Government and the enrolment of natives as volunteers.

SUBABHI,
May 5th, 1885.

32. The *Prabháti*, of the 5th May, says that Russia knows of the excellence of British rule and of the attachment of Indians to the British Government. She knows that Indians will not like her rule. The writer does not believe that under these circumstances Russia entertains the thought of conquering India. Many persons say that the English apprehend that if Russia stations herself near India, they will be obliged to desist from oppressions. This is true. If Russia stations herself near India, the English Government will have to see that Russia does not attract the hearts of Indians by showing a better system of government. If the apprehension of the English be of this kind, it will never be removed from their minds.

England and Russia.

PRABHATI,
May 5th, 1885.

PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION.

33. The *Mussulman Bandhu*, of the 24th April, is glad to notice that Sir Alfred Lyall, the Lieutenant-Governor of the North-Western Provinces, has appointed Moulvie Mahammad Samiulla Khan, a Subordinate Judge of the first grade, to a District Judgeship in Oudh.

Moulvie Mahammad Samiulla Khan.

MUSSALMAN BANDHU
April 24th, 1885.

34. A correspondent writing to the same paper says that instead of reducing the Moslem grant, the head-master of the Bogra zillah school has obtained an increase of Rs. 50 to that fund. He makes the best use of the money, but he never gives anything from the fund to anyone who is not poor. The Mahomedans of Bogra are on the best terms with the head-master. The complaint that the Persian class is held in the verandah is true indeed, but the head-master is not responsible for it. In order to remove the inconvenience of the students of the Persian class, he has obtained a grant for the construction of a building which will be commenced in a short time.

The head-master of the Bogra zillah school.

MUSSULMAN BANDHU.

35. The *Uchit Vaktá*, of the 25th April, says that owing to the protest of Lord Randolph Churchill the impressment of persons as coolies in Benares for the war had been stopped for some time. But persons are being again impressed as labourers. Government should not do anything at this time which is calculated to displease the Indian public.

Impressment of labourers.

UCHIT VAKTA,
April 25th, 1885.

36. The same paper says that the burden of taxation upon Indians is already very heavy. It being so, if Government impose any fresh tax it should not impose a direct one, but re-impose the import duties. The writer observes that the rates fixed for the license tax are not proper.

Further taxation and the license tax.

UCHIT VAKTA

Five hundred rupees is the highest rate. But Rs. 500 is nothing in proportion to the income of large European firms, while the lower rates fixed are very high to small native traders who have to pay them.

UCHIT VAKTA,
April 25th, 1885.

37. The same paper objects to the holding of the University examinations in summer, on the ground that it is very inconvenient for candidates to come from the mofussil in that season, and that they cannot then work hard.

CHARU VARTA,
April 27th, 1885.

38. The *Cháru Vártá*, of the 27th April, says that the natives are asking Lord Dufferin from all sides to grant them the privilege of enrolment as volunteers. If he does not trust the loyal natives at this crisis, it will be a matter of endless regret. He should not be indifferent to national aspirations.

CHARU VARTA.

39. The same paper does not find any argument in favour of the alteration of the time for holding the University examinations. Cholera and small-pox often break out in the hot season. Students should not be made to study day and night at such a season.

CHARU VARTA.

40. A correspondent writing to the same paper, complains that if any person goes to the sub-inspector of Kendua to lodge a complaint of theft, he sends the complainant away with abusive epithets.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,
April 28th, 1885.

41. The *Burdwan Sanjivani*, of the 28th April, says that Government is aware of the scarcity of food and water among the people, and it is certainly acquainted

with the description of suffering which fills the columns of newspapers. But what attempt has it made to alleviate the sufferings? The Government can spend two crores of rupees for giving a reception to the Amir, but it cannot spend two lacs for assuaging the hunger of its own subjects, who have kept in deposit with it a large sum of money for the purpose of famine relief. Lord Lytton appropriated the Famine Relief Fund for the purposes of the Afghan war. Will Lord Dufferin appropriate it for the purpose of propitiating the Afghans? At a time when the people are dying for want of food and water, Lord Dufferin has gone to Simla, and Sir Rivers Thompson to Darjeeling. The newspapers published the accounts of the sufferings of the people. The Magistrate held a house-to-house enquiry, and reported the matter to Government. But what has Government done for the people? It has indeed given 20 to 25 thousand rupees, but what can that small sum do in a district where groans of sufferings are heard on all sides? The Magistrate has opened annachhatras on a scale which the money obtained from subscriptions enabled him to do. More than this cannot be expected from him. In these annachhatras relief is given only to those who are blind or lame or otherwise incapacitated for work. Fifty men obtain relief from these in places where five hundred stand in need of it. If the Government still remains indifferent the whole blame will attach to it.

The appointment of Baboo Heralal Burman, a clerk of the Road Cess office, as Superintendent of the relief operations in Bud-Bud and Ausgram, has incensed the *Sanjivani* a great deal. Without taking into account the ability, honesty, and energy of the Baboo, it has abused him only because he is a clerk. The writer knows Heralal Baboo thoroughly, and has no hesitation in saying that he is at once able, energetic, and dutiful.

With the money obtained from subscriptions poor people were supplied with rice in some places, and with cooked rice in others. But the prohibition of giving doles of rice has put many people, especially of the respectable classes, to great difficulty, for, from fear of losing caste, they cannot eat cooked rice along with low class people. The writer earnestly begs the Collector to re-introduce the system of giving doles of rice.

The wages for the able-bodied poor employed in relief works have been fixed at half a seer of rice and one pice. Many do not agree to work on such terms. It is only the most indigent who consent to work on them. If they do not get sufficient quantity of food for two full meals after a day's hard work, they will grow weak and fall victims to untimely death.

Ramdas Acharya, an inhabitant of Dainhat, has committed suicide to escape the intolerable sufferings consequent on the scarcity of food. Before committing this act he wrote, what translated into English would run as follow:—"I have this day fed my wife and children with one seer of *musuri* procured with great difficulty. There is nothing to feed them with tomorrow. Death or life is equal to me."

A correspondent says that rice was regularly distributed to about 200 famine-stricken persons at Mamudpur. But the rule of distributing rice has been abolished. All the Brahmans, Acharyas, Aguris, and Sadgops are in great want of food. They would prefer death to going to annachhatras. The low class people cook their rice in the annachhatra at Mamudpur. But they are compelled to cook under the burning rays of the sun under trees. The scarcity of water is severely felt in this village.

42. The same paper publishes a piece of poetry in which there are two stanzas on the volunteering movement, the purport of which is given below—

The volunteering movement.

The Queen-Empress should place arms in the hands of the people of India. India will never be backward to give her heart's blood for her rulers. When the heroes of India will fight, the world will look on in amazement. What is Russia? She is but a wild boar. The three worlds will tremble with fear.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,
April 28th, 1885.

43 The *Sahachar*, of the 29th April, says that robber heroes like Tantia Bheel of the Central Provinces are now seldom seen. He has baffled all the attempts of the police of the English Government to arrest him. It is strange that the English Government, which has exterminated the Thugs and Pindarees, has been baffled by a Bheel robber.

The English Government and the robber Tantia.

SAHACHAR,
April 29th, 1885.

44. The same paper says that news has arrived from Simla that even if the income tax is not imposed to defray the expenses of the war, means will be used to obtain a larger income from the license tax. So the rate of the license-tax, which is a permanent one, will be increased. Will natives now learn to live upon nothing? Some say that the import duties will be reimposed. The writer does not believe that Government will venture to displease the Manchester merchants.

SAHACHAR.

45. The *Rungpore Dik Prakash*, of the 30th April, says that though educated natives are anxious to become volunteers, and though it has also become necessary to increase the military strength of the Empire, still the Viceroy hesitates to grant them the privilege of enrolment.

The volunteering movement.

RUNGPORE DIK
PRAKASH,
April 30th, 1885.

46. A correspondent writing to the same paper draws the attention of the authorities of Bogra to the fact that dead bodies are often thrown into the narrow and silted up river Karatoa, which pollute its water and make it unhealthy.

Throwing dead bodies in the Karatoa.

RUNGPORE DIK
PRAKASH.

47. The *Arya Darpan*, of the 1st May, approves of the action of the Deputy Commissioner of the Calcutta Police in arresting the publisher of an obscene work, and in putting a stop to its sale. The writer thinks that it is absolutely necessary to punish the publisher of such works.

Obscene publications.

ARYA DARPAN,
May 1st, 1885.

48. The *Patáká*, of the 1st May, says that the *Pioneer* denies that there is any foundation for the rumour that an income-tax of from 5 to 8 per cent. will be

Rumours about taxation.

PATAKA,
May 1st, 1885.

imposed. It will be very happy if the *Pioneer's* statement should be found to be true. But the budget does not show that there will be any savings, and much money has been spent upon preparations for the war. How will these expenses be met? Will England defray all the expenses of the war?

PATAKA,
May 1st, 1885.

49. The same paper says that Government is not willing to enrol natives as volunteers. But two native

Civil Surgeons have been informed that they may have to accompany the army to the seat of war. These gentlemen are not at all reluctant to go to the seat of war. The writer cannot understand why, when native Surgeons may be sent to the seat of war, natives cannot be enrolled as volunteers. It is impolitic to withhold rights from natives for which they are fit. The writer is sorry that Government is causing pain to natives by needlessly distrusting them when they are giving such proofs of loyalty. The *Indian Daily News* is sorry that natives are trying to become volunteers. It says that the English alone are responsible for the defence of India and not natives. Anglo-Indians fear that if natives are enrolled as volunteers the Arms Act will be repealed, and that in that event such persons as may rise against the English Government will obtain arms. But those natives who have prayed for admission into the volunteer corps are all educated gentlemen, and they are deeply interested in the maintenance of British rule. Those who possess Government securities, those who practise as pleaders or have obtained posts owing to their knowledge of English, will do all in their power to prevent the subversion of the British Government, at least for self-interest if for no other consideration. Government should make no objection to the enrolment of these men at least as volunteers.

MUSSULMAN BANDHU,
May 1st, 1885.

50. The *Mussulman Bandhu*, of the 1st May, warns his co-religionists not to fall into the hands of Satan by hearing the preachings of the Moulvies of

the Wahabi sect, who it is said have made their appearance in the cities and villages inhabited by Mahomedans.

MUSSULMAN BANDHU.

51. The same paper, in noticing the evasive answers given by Government to the representation made by educated natives for the privilege of enrolment as

volunteers, says that Government distrusts the natives, though all classes of natives are anxious to show their loyalty to it. It believes that the natives are making use of the present opportunity to get the Arms Act repealed, and that when they will be trained in the art of war they will appear in their true colours. But Government should know that natives are not made of that sort of stuff.

MUSSULMAN BANDHU.

52. A correspondent writing to the same paper says that two cow-herds were grazing their cattle in the fields of Arpara in Santipore. The piercing rays

of the meridian sun made them exceedingly thirsty. Extensive fields were on all sides without a drop of water anywhere. They began to run in search of water towards the village. But they fell down and died before they could reach it. Another correspondent says that many persons living in places to the west of Midnapore suffer greatly every year from want of water. Ponds of all dimensions have dried up in the month of Baishakh. The sufferings of the inhabitants are the greatest in Mian bazar, Mirza bazar and Patna bazar. Government should do something to remove the scarcity of water.

PRATIKAR,
May 1st, 1885.

53. The *Iratikár*, of the 1st May, is glad to learn that Maharani Svarnamayi has made a donation of Rs. 1,000 for the relief of poor people suffering from

Maharani Svarnamayi.
the effects of the famine.

PRATIKAR,
May 1st, 1885.

54. The same paper is glad to learn that the Nawab of Moorshedabad had given a donation of Rs. 100, and has promised a subscription of Rs. 10 a month for the support of the technical school founded by the exertions of Baboo Pran Kumar Das, the Chairman of the Moorshedabad Municipality.

The Nawab of Moorshedabad.

PRATIKAR.

55. The same paper says that the ruler of Bengal, who is destroying and constructing society in Bengal at his pleasure, is a heartless man. His sympathy and his indulgence have made the Anglo-Indians of Bengal acquire a brutal disposition, and take a delight in oppressing natives. The whole country is greatly agitated. The people brought many grievances to their ruler's notice, but he took no notice of them.

Sir Rivers Thompson.

PRATIKAR.

56. As an illustration of the truth of the remarks made in the preceding paragraph, the same paper notices the death of Baboo Jogendra Nath Mitra, who was shot down dead by a European, on the 15th of Chait at Sikhpur in Raneegunj. The writer does not believe that justice will be done in this case by English Judges.

Killing of natives.

PRATIKAR.

57. The editor of the same paper, in noticing the terrible fire which has reduced the eastern portion of Beldanga to ashes, appeals to his wealthy countrymen to come forward with open hands to help those who have been ruined by the fire.

Fire at Beldanga.

PRATIKAR.

58. A correspondent writing to the same paper complains that a opium shop has been opened in the very heart of the village of Khurda. It should be removed to the vicinity of the police station. Public women living near the temple of Shyam Sundar should be removed to the extremity of the village.

Complaints of Khurda.

PRATIKAR.

59. A correspondent writing to the same paper says that there are only two tanks which supply the people of Jalangi with water. Want of repairs has made the water of these tanks extremely poisonous. The writer attributes the outbreaks of cholera in Jalangi to the poisonous state of the water of these tanks. If not re-excavated the tanks should be drained of their bad water. The writer hopes that the Magistrate will order the owners to drain them.

Scarcity of water in Jalangi.

PRAJA BANDHU,
May 1st, 1885.

60. The *Prajá Bandhu*, of the 1st May, complains that the course of studies prescribed for the Muktearship examination is very nearly the same as that prescribed for the higher grade Pleadership examination. The writer does not understand how this can be fair. Mr. Hyde, the Secretary to the Board of Examiners, acts just as he pleases in the matter of the Muktearship examination. One or two examiners are appointed to examine about 1,500 candidates in one or two days. The writer does not understand how one or two persons can examine so many persons in so short a time. Mr. Hyde is a Barrister-at-law, and he gets a large salary for his Secretaryship, for which he has to work one or two days in the year. The writer thinks that a native barrister should be appointed Secretary in the place of Mr. Hyde.

The Muktearship examination.

PRAJA BANDHU.

61. The same paper says that the spoliation of Oudh was completed in the time of Wazid Ali Shah. The English with a view to annex the State raised a cry of mis-government, but a few virtuous men did not join in the cry. Lord Dalhousie sent Colonel Sleeman as Resident to Oudh, who began by discrediting the Oudh Government in the eyes of its subjects. He insulted the Minister of Wazid Ali. He used to discharge criminals punished by the courts of the Nawab. Major Outram followed the course of policy laid down by Colonel Sleeman. On the 30th of January he informed the Minister that the English wanted to annex the State, and declined to argue

The spoliation of a province.

with him on the subject, and on the 4th of February a proclamation was issued for its annexation. The pensions granted by the Nawab to his Begums were taken under their own management, and the spoliation was complete. The writer does not know what would become of Hyderabad.

GRAMVARTA
PRAKASHIKA,
May 2nd, 1885.

62. The *Grámvartá Prakashiká*, of the 2nd May, says that a certain number of respectable gentlemen from Burrisal waited on the Lieutenant-Governor

with a prayer for the introduction of self-government in their district. The Lieutenant-Governor told them that he has simply followed the advice of Mr. R. C. Dutta, the Magistrate, in withholding it from Burrisal. Rumour, however, has it that Mr. Dutta has not given such advice. The writer asks Government to publish the report of Mr. R. C. Dutta on the subject.

GRAMVARTA
PRAKASHIKA.

63. The same paper says that the Lieutenant-Governor has laid the famine-stricken people of Sonamukhi thana under great obligation by ordering that rice should be distributed among them. The writer will be glad if the Lieutenant-Governor orders similar distribution of rice in Beerbhoom and in Burdwan.

GRAMVARTA
PRAKASHIKA.

64. The same paper regrets to say that the political situation of India is such that she has to bear the expenses of a double Government, viz., the Government of India in India, and the Government of India at home. This makes the British Government so much more costly than the Mahomedan Government that preceded it.

GRAMVARTA
PRAKASHIKA.

65. The same paper offers its sincere prayer to God for a peaceful settlement of the Boundary dispute.

GRAMVARTA
PRAKASHIKA.

66. The same paper says that it is a well-known fact that the scarcity of water is increasing year after year. It is a matter of great regret that neither Government nor the zemindars pay the slightest attention to this matter. Had they any sympathy with the people they could never have been so indifferent.

GRAMVARTA
PRAKASHIKA.

67. The same paper in writing an article on Lucretia, the celebrated Roman lady, asks his countrymen not to tolerate such dishonour as was perpetrated by the wicked Webb. They should rouse themselves up. The writer of course does not advise them to rebel; but they should represent the matter to the Queen-Empress, and she will put a stop to the recurrence of such incidents.

SANJIVANI,
May 2nd, 1885.

68. The *Sanjivani*, of the 2nd May, notices that memorials for obtaining the privilege of enrolment as volunteers have been presented to Government from various places, and the writer hopes that Government will take the matter into its best consideration.

SANJIVANI.

69. The same paper is glad to notice the humane conduct of Mr. Jeffery, the Magistrate of Bogra, who, during the terrible fire that broke out in the city, afforded shelter to all the respectable females who were running through the streets in a forlorn condition from the effects of the fire.

SANJIVANI.

70. The same paper, in noticing that the services of two native surgeons have been required on the frontier, says that it does not understand why, when native surgeons can be sent to the seat of war, natives cannot be allowed to become volunteers.

SANJIVANI.

71. The same paper condemns the appointment of a road cess clerk as Superintendent of Relief Works in Bud-Bud, but it approves of the appointment of Baboo

Supervision of relief works.

Kamal Narayan Chakravarti, a conscientious Sub-Deputy Collector, as Superintendent of Relief Works in Burdwan.

72. The same paper, in noticing the statement of the Lieutenant-Governor on the subject of the introduction of self-government in Backergunge, throwing the blame on Mr. R. C. Datta, and the rumour that Mr. R. C. Datta did not oppose such introduction, asks who is to be believed? The enemies of the Lieutenant-Governor are whispering to the effect that the man who can publicly ridicule the teaching of Jesus Christ can do anything. The writer is not disposed to listen to such whisper. He would rather ask the Lieutenant-Governor to publish the report submitted by Mr. Datta.

SANJIVANI,
May 2nd, 1885.

73. The same paper thanks the Government for removing a great want by allowing the admission of females in the Medical College. Many females unable to describe several diseases peculiar to them to male doctors often suffer greatly from their effects. Their sufferings are likely to be alleviated if they are placed under the treatment of female doctors.

SANJIVANI.

74. The same paper is extremely sorry that Mr. Clarke, a model Englishman, a man known for the complete control he keeps over his temper, has been guilty of striking a respectable pleader in open court.

SANJIVANI.

75. The same paper is glad to notice that Mr. Lambert, the Deputy Commissioner of Calcutta, has arrested the publisher and stopped the sale of an obscene work. The writer thinks that there are many who are making money by the publication of such works, and that such publications should be put a stop to.

SANJIVANI.

76. The same paper says that the cultivation of indigo is ruining the country. The cultivation of indigo requires land, ryots, carts, boats and men. For the purpose of securing an influence over the people, the planters take lands either from the Collector or from native zemindars, and so the planters are the real rulers of the land. If a man has four bighas of indigo land he gets Rs. 8 as advance, but he has to pay Rs. 3-8 to bribe the planter's amla. The cost of cultivation of the four bighas is estimated at Rs. 6-8. The produce of the four bighas is estimated at 40 bundles, the value of which, at five bundles per rupee, is Rs. 8. To get these bundles entered in the factory books, bribes to the extent of Rs. 4-8 are required. Altogether the cost then comes to Rs. 14-8. Over and above this there is the rent of the land Rs. 4: so if a man can cultivate with his own hand, he incurs a cost of Rs. 18-8, but if he gets it cultivated by the amla of the planters his cost is Rs. 25-2. Leaving the hire of carts and boats out of account, the man will be indebted at the end of the year to the planters to the extent of Rs. 5-8, or Rs. 12-2.

SANJIVANI.

77. The same paper says that the natives are living happily under the English, but still they often ask themselves whether they are really happy. The ancient commerce and manufactures of India have ceased to exist. The English are developing the mineral and agricultural resources of the country, and the native who prepare all things for the English must rest satisfied with what they get from them, rather as a favour than as a due.

SANJIVANI.

SANJIVANI,
May 2nd, 1885.

78. The same paper says that the village of Banerwarapura is inhabited principally by Mahomedans. There are about 20 to 25 families in this village.

The famine.

They are very poor. They are now keeping their body and soul together with difficulty by the earnings of their labour. But when the work of cultivation will commence after the setting in of the rains, they will be in great straits. Unless they obtain advances from Government they will not be able to cultivate their lands, for they do not expect to get loans in any other quarter. They have applied to the Collector for such advances, and the writer asks the Collector of Burdwan to personally inspect the condition of these people.

BANGABASI,
May 2nd, 1885.

79. The *Bangabasi*, of the 2nd May, in noticing the prevalence of cholera of a very severe type in the village of Belun in the Pandua thana, where ten men

Cholera in Belun.

were carried off in one day, says that the villagers have applied for medical relief to the Magistrate of Hooghly. Government relief has become absolutely necessary. The writer hopes that the Magistrate will take pity on the inhabitants of the village.

BANGABASI.

80. The same paper is glad to learn that Baboo Hiralal Burma, the Accountant of the Road Cess Office, Burdwan, has been promoted and appointed to

Relief works in Budbud and Ausgram.

superintend the relief works in the thanas of Budbud and Ausgram, on the transfer of the Deputy Magistrate who was in charge of these works. These works require hard work, and it is better to employ men like Baboo Hiralal, who are just, and hard-working, and who have a thorough knowledge of the country, than to appoint highly-paid officers fond of ease and luxury.

BANGABASI.

81. The same paper complains that the cost of litigation is so heavy in the High Court that many regular suits of small value are not at all instituted. The

Cost of litigation in the High Court.

number of regular suits in the High Court is less than half of those instituted in the Alipore Court from the suburbs, though the population of Calcutta and of the suburbs is nearly equal. The writer thinks that a new court should be established for the disposal of those regular suits of small value which are not cognizable by the Calcutta Small Cause Court. This new court should be constituted on the same principle as the mofussil courts, the pleaders being paid a percentage of the value of the suit. It should be presided over by a Judge who is thoroughly conversant with the native languages. An application was made about five months ago by some respectable inhabitants of Calcutta for the establishment of such a court for the disposal of suits to the value of Rs. 5,000. The writer hopes that Government will not remain indifferent in this matter.

BANGABASI.

82. Baboo Shyamlal Mookerjee, writing to the same paper, says that the condition of the Muchis, Mahomedans, Dhangars, Bagdis, Haris and Domes of

Famine in Bengal.

Malbere and the neighbouring villages under the jurisdiction of the thana of Labhpur in Beerbhoom is very deplorable. Many of them are starving. Many have fled away abandoning their aged parents and young children to their fate. People are getting weak and lean, not only the lower classes, but even middle class men are in want. They have sold off all they had. They scarcely get half a meal a day. The writer gives the names of certain persons who are on the point of death from the effects of starvation.

The condition of Danrka defies all description, and the neighbouring villages do not fare better than Danrka. Since the departure of Kristo Baboo from Danrka, three persons, viz. Atal Mandal, Karbari Dom and Romjan Sheikh, have died of starvation. The writer asks who is responsible for these deaths? Where are the Collector and the Commissioner? Do they still mean to say that these men died of illness? The writer

is in possession of conclusive evidence to prove that they have all died of starvation. Ten or twelve persons are on the point of death, and thousands have not taken food for two or three days.

BHARAT BASI,
May 2nd, 1885.

83. The *Bhārat Basi*, of the 2nd May, says that Government does not like to enrol natives as volunteers, but it has ordered two native Surgeons to proceed with the army. Have these Surgeons refused to go? They are going cheerfully to do their duty. Many more are ready to go in case of need. The natives are ready to do everything for the preservation of the honour of their rulers, but still they are distrusted. This is a matter of great regret.

The volunteering movement.

84. The same paper is not sure whether the Orissa Canal Commission has devised any means for checking oppression; but the question will be discussed after the publication of the report. The writer can say thus far that the Commission was appointed with the object of whitewashing Government, and its members have striven hard to attain that object. The oppression on the ryots remains the same as before, and perhaps it will be increased by the imposition of a fresh tax in the shape of an insurance fee to ensure the getting of water in times of drought. The license-tax was imposed for the creation of a fund for famine relief. But while the tax is levied, people are dying for want of food. In the same way insurance fees will be levied for giving water in times of drought, but where will water be found at those times when the canals will be dried up? The Balasore National Association applied to Government for the appointment of a Canal Commission in which there should be three members to represent the interests of Government, the zemindars, and the raiyats respectively. But instead of representative members, Government appointed three European members who, from the beginning, complained of want of time. They did not attempt to take the depositions of the people, and they did not treat the zemindars with proper respect. They made some enquiry in their own way and hastened back to Calcutta.

BHARAT BASI.

Bad smell in Calcutta.

85. The same paper complains that in every street in Calcutta a foul smell issues after dusk. The cause of this foul smell seems to be the want of proper cleansing of the drains. The Commissioners should inspect from time to time whether the drains are properly flushed.

BHARAT BASI.

86. The *Samvād Prabhākar*, of the 2nd May, says that it is hearing complaints from student about the holding of the University examinations in April. Many candidates fell ill on account of hard work in the intense heat of summer. It is also very inconvenient for those who live at a distance from the town to reach the examination hall early in the morning. The writer recommends that the examinations should be held in the beginning of March. The writer says that the new arrangement has been made with the view of enabling Professors to spend the summer months on the hills. It is said that a question paper for the Entrance examination was tampered with. In the paper on English literature in the First Arts examination, questions were set from a book which is not included among the text-books fixed for that examination.

SAMVAD PRABHAKAR,
May 2nd, 1885.

87. The *Sādhārānī*, of the 3rd May, says that Government, which is responsible for the wellbeing of the people, has really done nothing to drive out malaria, which is making such dreadful ravages in the mofussil. It may be said that Government has established the Medical College, and appointed many medical officers on high salaries. But all this proceeds from the policy of increasing the salaries of the Surgeons

SADHARANI,
May 3rd, 1885.

in proportion as the prevalence of diseases increases. India is sorely afflicted with diseases. But Government is anxious to increase the profit of English Surgeons, and English chemists and druggists. A long experience has convinced the writer that English medicines are not suited to the constitution of natives. Quinine is not very efficacious in malaria. Government has as yet made no efforts to root out the seeds of disease. Should not Government attend first of all to the poor inhabitants of those villages who have got no municipality, and where there is no means of establishing a municipality? There is great scarcity of water in villages. Many villages are so full of jungle that tigers hide in them in the day time. The mercantile policy of the British Government is that he who has not money will not obtain justice, and that such a man should not hope to live. Still English writers boast that India was never so well administered as under British rule. Epidemic attended by famine is committing ravages in the province.

SADHARANI,
May 3rd, 1885.

88. The same paper says that the *Englishman* and the *Pioneer* are trying to prove that natives are not loyal. Every well-wisher of England should now seek to establish friendly relations with everybody at this time of danger. But those two papers are anxious to wound the feelings of Indians.

SADHARANI.

89. The same paper says that the assistant surgeons are miserably underpaid. In defence of the fixing of a low rate of salary in their case, it is urged that the assistant surgeons derive additional income from private practice, and that they are appointed medical officers of the Government charitable dispensaries. The majority of the assistant surgeons, says the writer, derive no additional income from private practice. It being so, it is by no means proper to fix the salary of the whole class of assistant surgeons so low. As for the assistant surgeons being medical officers of the charitable dispensaries, no income is derived from these; how then will the salaries of the assistant surgeons be increased? There is in no country such a barbarous method as that of fixing salaries of officers after a consideration of the income derived from an institution. Why will the assistant surgeons work on small salaries as medical officers of the charitable dispensaries?

SADHARANI.

90. A correspondent of the same paper writing from Jainagore, in the 24-Pergunnahs, complains that though incendiarism has become very prevalent in the village, the police is indifferent in the matter.

DACCA PRAKASH,
May 3rd, 1885.

91. The *Dacca Prakāsh*, of the 3rd May, complains that the members of the Central Text-Book Committee have been chosen exclusively from the people of Western Bengal resident in Calcutta. It is feared that bad books from Western Bengal will be selected in preference to good books from other parts of Bengal.

DACCA PRAKASH.

92. The same paper notices that the Lieutenant-Governor has said that he followed the advice of Mr. R. C. Datta, in withholding the privilege of self-government from Backergunge. But it has now come to light that Mr. Datta did not give such advice. The writer cannot believe that the Lieutenant-Governor would try to stop the mouth of the representatives of Barisal by a false statement. He would therefore like that the papers, connected with the question of the introduction of self-government in Barisal, should be published.

DACCA PRAKASH.

93. The same paper hears that under the proposed copyright bill, news published in one newspaper cannot be copied by another within a certain time. The vernacular papers are not yet in a position to employ correspondents

all over the country, and so they often have to depend on their English contemporaries for news to a great extent. The operation of this provision in the bill will greatly discourage these newspapers. The writer thinks that some evil-minded men have influenced Government to frame this provision which is not known to any civilized nation.

94. The same paper says that Mr. C. B. Clarke is known to be a good man, and he is much respected by the natives. But the climate of Assam seems to have something wrong in it; otherwise why should even Mr. Clarke incur the displeasure of the people of that province.

DACCA PRAKASH,
May 3rd, 1885.

95. The *Sámáchar Chandriká*, of the 4th May, is sorry that a good, amiable and not anti-native Englishman like Mr. Clarke has been guilty of striking a respectable native.

SAMACHAR CHAN-
DRIKA,
May 4th, 1885.

96. The *Navavibhákar*, of the 4th May, says that mere construction of railways, sinking of wells, excavation of canals, and loans on more advantageous terms than at present will not prevent the recurrence of famines in India. It should be seen that every facility is afforded to the people for improvement. So long as the whole population is engaged in agriculture, the condition of the country will never improve. It should be seen that the people of India have some share in the profit derived from English commerce and manufactures. The Indian manufactures should be fostered in order that they may not be driven out of the market by English manufactures. So long as all this is not done the apprehension of famines will not be removed.

NAVAVIBHAKAR,
May 4th 1885.

97. The *Som Prakash*, of the 4th May, says that it has been settled that the work of the reformation of the system of education will be deferred for want of money. Important works are thus being deferred even when now war has not commenced. There is no knowing what will happen when the war commences. The construction of the Bengal and Nagpore Railway has also been stopped for want of money. There is no knowing how greatly the famine-afflicted people who had been working in the construction of the railway will suffer owing to this.

SOM PRAKASH,
May 4th, 1885.

98. The same paper says that it has never seen such an agitation as that which is being made at present for the enrolment of natives as volunteers. The desire for enrolment all over the country as volunteers has become very strong in Indians. If Government tries to stifle this desire it will but injure itself. Government may without any immediate danger displease the weak Bengalis. But it is not advisable to arouse suspicions in the minds of the hardy Madrasis, the strong Maharrattas, and the heroic Punjabis. It will be the wisest policy for the English Government to implicitly rely upon natives at this time of danger.

SOM PRAKASH.

99. A correspondent of the same paper writing from Kharda complains that the arrangements in the Eastern Bengal Railway are very unsatisfactory. Recently the train which was to have left Kharda at 7-40, left the station after 8, stopped at a place for about half an hour, and arrived at Sealdah considerably after the appointed time. Every one can understand the loss and inconvenience which the passengers had to suffer owing to this undue delay. The correspondent hopes that better arrangements will be made. He recommends that a larger number of third class carriages should be supplied.

SOM PRAKASH.

100. Another correspondent of the same paper, writing from Raipore in Beerbhoom, says that though there is some distress there is no famine in that part of the country. But he cannot say anything about other

SOM PRAKASH.

parts of Beerbhoom. The correspondent says that the tanks there are drying up owing to intense heat. The sufferings of the people will be very great if there be no rainfall within a short time. The tanks are very old and need clearing. But the owners of the tanks are no longer in a position to do so. Government should look to the matter.

SAMAYA,
May 4th, 1885.

101. The *Samaya*, of the 4th May, complains that all round Ramporehat, where famine is raging in utmost violence, fire is destroying some village or other almost every day. Only the other day a village named Basaya was burnt down almost to ashes.

SAMAYA.

102. The Dacca correspondent of the same paper complains of dust in the streets of Dacca. Though the Commissioners of Dacca are all men of education and culture, yet they have allowed the drains to be filled with matter, the stench from which is intolerable.

SAMAYA.

103. The same paper cannot help being amused at the fact that following the example of other Native Princes, the Maharajah of Cooch Behar has not only placed the entire resources of his State at the disposal of the English, but has offered to go to war as an Honorary Major. The Maharajah obtained on his installation a sum of 22 lakhs, the savings made during his minority. His Highness has very nearly spent all this sum in pleasure suited to European taste. The number of soldiers employed under the State is 100, in which number the durwans also are included.

SAMAYA.

104. The same paper learns from a credible source that 300 cows have been stolen from a few villages under the Gyghata thana in Jessore in one day. This proves the inefficiency of the police most conclusively.

ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
May 4th, 1885.

105. The *Ananda Bazar Patrika*, of the 4th May, exhorts all ryots and intermediate tenants in this country to agitate against the Bengal Tenancy Act. If the zemindar's agitation against the measure becomes successful, it will be so passed as to consult their interests alone. In the Tenancy Act, as it is, the interests of ryots and intermediate tenants have been in a large measure sacrificed.

SAMVAD PURNA
CHANDRODAYA,
May 4th, 1885.

106. The *Samvād Purnachandrodaya*, of the 4th May, says that if Government does not reform the Police Department the police will be known as the breaker and not as the keeper of the peace. The oppressions of the police will not cease so long as educated men are not appointed to it. The constables are such great rascals that they do not pay proper prices for articles purchased by them. The writer saw with his own eyes a police constable forcibly throw a fish-woman on the ground in Pooree because she refused to let the constable have a fish for a price which was too low.

BANGAVIDYA PRAKA
SHIKA,
May 4th, 1885

107. The *Bangavidyā Prakāshikā*, of the 4th May, would like to know whether the sades of those who have died of starvation haunt Sir Rivers Thompson in dreams and thus disturb his sleep.

PRABHATI,
May 4th, 1885.

108. The *Prabhātī*, of the 4th May, says that the English should give loyal Bengalis arms without any fear. Bengalis will always remain loyal to the English Government.

SURABHI,
May 5th, 1885.

109. The *Surabhi*, of the 5th May, says that though Government is refusing natives admission into the volunteer corps, it is not hesitating to employ them in military work. The writer is glad that the Native Military Surgeons ordered to the frontier.

two native Military Surgeons, Baboos Dharmadas Bose and Rasiklal Dutta, who have been ordered by Government to accompany the army to the frontier, have expressed their readiness to do so.

SURASHI
May 5th, 1885.

110. The same paper is very glad that Mr. Lambert, the efficient Deputy Commissioner of Police, has girt up his loins to stop the publication of obscene books.

Mr. Lambert and obscene books.

He has found out an obscene book.

DAINIK,
May 6th, 1885.

111. The *Dainik*, of the 6th May, says that impressment of labourers has been for a long time past a custom in India. Though the Penal Code provides

Impressment of labourers.

punishment for the impressment of labourers, this custom is even now very prevalent in many parts of India, and especially in the North-Western Provinces. Teshildars in the North-Western Provinces and Police Inspectors in Bengal are ordered to collect carriers, carts, &c., when the officials set out on tours. The officials wink at this, because it is a custom of the land, but it should be remembered that this custom is a source of great sufferings to the poor,

112. The *Samvād Prabhākar*, of the 6th May, recommends that a humbler and cheaper tribunal should be established in Calcutta for the trial of petty interests in land, &c. People have now to go to the High Court for the trial of such petty cases. Everybody knows how costly litigation in the High Court is.

A cheap tribunal in Calcutta for the trial of petty interests in land, &c.

SAMVAD PRABHAKAR,
May 6th, 1885.

113. The *Samāchār Chandrikā*, of the 6th May, says that it saw 50 passengers crammed into a carriage (which is to contain only 10 passengers according to the rule) of a train coming from Diamond Harbour. The Lieutenant-Governor should take steps to prevent such things.

The Calcutta and South-Eastern State Railway.

**SAMACHAR CHAN-
DRIKA,**
May 6th, 1885.

114. The *Samvād Bāhikā*, of the 16th April, points out that the constables of the police force should be recruited from men of good character. It explains the necessity of this remark by referring to the example of one Padu, who, though serving as watchman in certain portion of the Balasore town, was convicted of theft, committed in the area that was in his charge and was punished accordingly. Its contemporary of the *Utkal Darpan* also makes similar remarks.

Recruits for the police.

SAMVAD BAHIKA,
April 16th, 1885.

115. The *Utkal Dipikā*, of the 18th April, defends the sale and distribution of certain indecent books in the Balasore district, which formed the subject of comment in other papers, on the ground that the books were awarded as prize-books, and that they need not therefore be necessarily read by all of those to whom they were awarded. It further remarks that the objectionable passages from the very fact of their alluding to the doings of Krishna cannot be considered indecent from the Hindu point of view.

Indecent books.

UTKAL DIPIKA,
April 18th, 1885.

116. In an article headed "Russian Aggression," the *Utkal Darpan*, of the 21st April, makes the following remarks:—"The difficulties of England would be greater than those of Russia in case of a war. The Russians will experience no difficulty in sending an army to the scene of action, as all the country from the Afghan frontier to Russia belongs to the Russians; whereas England will feel great difficulty if she be required to send an army across Afghanistan, the inhabitants of which are said to be not friendly to the English. The Amir himself cannot reckon upon the loyalty of his subjects, if he allows the English army to pass through Afghanistan, and therefore it is that he has asked for arms and ammunition instead of a body of trained English soldiers to defend his country against the Russians."

Russian aggression.

UTKAL DARPAN,
April 21st, 1885.

All the vernacular papers of Orissa devote a large number of their columns every week to the progress of events in the Russo-Afghan frontier and in the Soudan, and exhort the people to assume a loyal attitude towards Government.

SEBAKA,
April, 22nd 1895.

117. The *Sebaka*, of the 22nd April, makes the following remarks on the changes of officers in the Municipality of Cuttack :—"The Cuttack Municipality at their last meeting nominated Baboo Nandakisore Das, their present Vice-Chairman, to the post of Chairman, rendered vacant by the departure of Mr. K. G. Gupta on furlough, and Baboo Jageswar Chandra Chand to that of the Vice-Chairman. We do not, at the present moment, intend to offer any remarks on the selections made by the municipality, as time alone will show how the new office bearers will discharge their respective duties. At the same time, we must observe that we would have been very glad to see a European member nominated to one of the two important posts of the municipality. Unfortunately the number of European members is very small, and the constitution of the municipality is entirely in favour of the natives. Still the common sense of the native members should have pointed out to them the necessity of nominating a European member to one of the above offices, in consideration of the fact that the European and Eurasian population of the town is very large compared with that of other towns in Orissa. We hope the municipality will before long see their mistake, and try to correct it accordingly."

The Municipality of Calcutta.

SEBAKA.

118. The same paper has the following notice of Mr. K. G. Gupta, late Joint-Magistrate of Cuttack, on his departure from that station :—

Mr. K. G. Gupta.

"Mr. K. G. Gupta, who was in Orissa for more than two years, a portion of which was spent in Pooree in the capacity of District Magistrate, and the remaining portion at Cuttack in the capacity of Joint-Magistrate, left Cuttack yesterday on furlough, which was sanctioned and published in a late issue of the *Calcutta Gazette*. Being one of the few who have been admitted into the Indian Civil Service by passing the competitive examination in England, the work and conduct of Mr. Gupta have been closely watched, on the one hand by Government, who entertain sceptical notions about the administrative abilities of native officers, and on the other by natives, who look upon the success of a single career as that of the whole nation. We are, however, glad to state that the verdict of public opinion is in Mr. Gupta's favour. All the gentlemen with whom we have conversed on the subject testify to his ability and successful executive capacity. The tax-payers of the Cuttack Municipality must miss a short-sized gentleman with hat and coat, riding on a grey pony almost every morning and inquiring after the condition of the roads, drains, latrines, &c., belonging to that municipality. Over and above his Government duties, Mr. Gupta was known to be present in important public meetings, to encourage good works by subscription, counsel and example, and to mix socially with the respectable classes of natives."

SEBAKA

119. Referring to the formation of a reserve volunteer force in Madras, the same paper deeply regrets that the natives were most unjustly disallowed to serve with the European members of the local volunteer corps. It is therefore of opinion that Government ought to frame new rules for the formation and organization of pure native volunteer corps.

A reserve volunteer force.

SEBAKA

120. The same paper is very glad to notice that proposals are in progress for the formation of a volunteer force at Cuttack. It hopes that the present good feelings between the natives and Europeans of the

A volunteer corps for Cuttack.

Cuttack station will help the formation of the above force without any difficulty.

121. Referring to the constant outbreak of fires in the Cuttack Municipality, the same paper advises that municipality to keep in their possession one or two fire-engines, ready for use in cases of emergency.

SEBAKA,
April 22nd, 1885.

RAJKRISHNA MUKHOPADHYAYA, M.A. & B.L.,

Bengali Translator.

BENGALI TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE,
The 9th May 1885.

